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LITERATURE CURRICULUM II--TESTS FOR "THE CALL OF THE WILD" AND "THE PEARL."

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OREGON CURRICULUM STUDY CENTER

LITERATURE CURRICULUM II:

Tests for THE CALL OF THE WILD

and

THE PEARL

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OREGON CURRICULUM STUDY CENTER

TEST
Literature Curriculum II

The Call of the Wild

Instruction to students:

Answers to the questions are to be recorded on the separate answer sheets provided. PLEASE BE SURE TO USE ONLY SIDE A OF THE ANSWER SHEET, THE SIDE THAT HAS ROOM FOR 5 CHOICES.

Use a soft lead pencil (#2 or softer) and completely fill the space between the lines for the response you choose as the correct answer. Your score on this test will be the number of correct answers you mark. There is only one best answer for each item.

Sample test item: Who is the chief executive of the United States Government?
(1) The President
(2) The Secretary of State
(3) The Secretary of Defense
(4) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

Since the correct answer is 1, the answer sheet is marked like this:

Sample test Item: 1 2 3 4 5

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1. Buck was
   (1) a husky
   (2) part St. Bernard and part Scotch shepherd
   (3) part Spitz and part Timber Wolf
   (4) a German shepherd

2. The point of view of Call of the Wild is
   (1) first person
   (2) third person limited
   (3) third person omniscient
   (4) a combination of these

3. Buck's encounter with the man in the red sweater teaches him the
   (1) law of the wilderness
   (2) law of the club
   (3) law of respect
   (4) law of the southland

4. Buck's first owner and master was
   (1) Francois and Perrault
   (2) John Thornton
   (3) Judge Miller
   (4) Charles and Hal

5. Which important event happened first?
   (1) Buck defeated Spitz.
   (2) Buck ran away to Dawson.
   (3) Buck became the leader of the dog team.
   (4) Buck rescued Thornton

6. Buck's ability to adapt quickly is illustrated by his learning to
   (1) attack men carrying clubs
   (2) beg for food and warmth
   (3) perform well on the dog team
   (4) love each of his owners

7. The 1st chapter ends with Buck's introduction to snow. This experience emphasizes the
   (1) evil of nature
   (2) change of one way of life to another
   (3) continuation of his past life
   (4) welcome of a kind new world

8. The lesson Buck learned from Curly's experience with the other dogs was the
   (1) law of the fang
   (2) law of nature
   (3) law of civilization
   (4) law of brotherhood

9. Buck's decision to sleep under the snow shows he has partly mastered his
   (1) friend Pike
   (2) enemy Spitz
   (3) owners
   (4) physical environment

10. Three times the fight between Spitz and Buck is postponed. The author does this to
   (1) create suspense
   (2) illustrate Buck's patience
   (3) illustrate Spitz's cleverness
   (4) create a mood of sadness

11. Buck's victory over Spitz changes him from a
   (1) passive dog to an active one
   (2) pet to a cruel killer
   (3) leader to a follower
   (4) friend of man to an enemy

12. In Chapter IV Buck's mastery of his environment is symbolized by
   (1) the snake he kills
   (2) the Sol-Leks incident
   (3) the home Francois builds for him
   (4) the record run from Dawson to the coast

13. In the plot's structure the lowest point for Buck came when he was
   (1) nearly clubbed to death by Hal
   (2) clubbed by the man in the red shirt
   (3) betrayed by Thornton
   (4) attacked by the raiding huskies

14. According to London, Buck's relationships with all men are unsatisfactory because they
   (1) restrict his freedom
   (2) live for money not love
   (3) demand the impossible
   (4) live evil lives

15. Nature has no pity on men who can't adjust to her world. This is best illustrated by
   (1) Francois and Perrault
   (2) the Indians
   (3) John Thornton
   (4) Hal and Charles

16. Primordial means
   (1) cruel
   (2) gigantic
   (3) happy
   (4) from the beginning

17. Which adjective describes Thornton as compared to other humans whom Buck has known ?
    (1) typical
    (2) worse
    (3) better
    (4) sometimes better, sometimes worse

18. Buck's success in pulling the weighted sled was due to his
    (1) love for Thornton
    (2) fear of punishment
    (3) desire for fame
    (4) fear of failure

19. Buck's attitude toward Thornton was one filled with conflicts because he
    (1) feared him
    (2) respected him but did not love him
    (3) hated yet respected him
    (4) loved him, but had to be free of him

20. John Thornton showed his affection for Buck by
    (1) shaking Buck's head back and forth and swearing at him
    (2) spoiling him
    (3) giving him extra food
    (4) letting Buck return to the southland

21. Thornton's dogs, Nig and Skeet, reacted to Buck with
    (1) jealousy
    (2) fear
    (3) kindness
    (4) selfishness

22. Buck learned to steal and London uses this incident to illustrate that only
    (1) the fittest can survive
    (2) thieves are admirable
    (3) men can have morals
    (4) dogs can be evil

23. The man Buck sees in the fire is a symbol of
    (1) the Indian cook
    (2) the men who have been cruel to Buck
    (3) Buck's longing for his former home in California
    (4) Buck's return to a more primitive existence

24. Which statement best represents London's attitude toward society?
    (1) He thinks man is too cruel to his fellow men.
    (2) Soft societies make man too weak. Man and beast should be allowed to return to the wild where the fittest survive.
    (3) The meek should inherit the earth.
    (4) The call of the wild must be suppressed in men and beasts if society is to progress.

25. The student can measure Buck's increasing wildness by his
(1) increased number of dreams of the hairy man
(2) growing cruelty to all animals throughout the story
(3) growing affection for Thornton
(4) increased desires to return home

26. Besides viewing the story as a journey into the wilderness, the story also concerns a journey toward
(1) oblivion
(2) death
(3) self-discovery
(4) peace

27. Buck's complete return to the primitive state is shown by
(1) his mating with the wolf
(2) his seeing the hairy man
(3) his killing the moose
(4) his attacking the Indian

28. London looked upon Nature as
(1) a harsh, impersonal force
(2) a kind force
(3) an evil force
(4) a gentle force

29. Buck's last contact with man is as a
(1) partner
(2) servant
(3) friend
(4) natural enemy

30. To be successful Buck had to
(1) attack his masters
(2) hate his fellow dogs
(3) become a weak pet
(4) become free of all human masters

31. The finding of the gold is important because it
(1) brings wealth and fame to Thornton
(2) gives London the opportunity to explain how to pan for gold
(3) gives the trip a chance to stop while Buck can keep on going
(4) gives Buck an opportunity to demonstrate his success as a domestic dog or pet

32. The title, The Call of the Wild, refers to
(1) the sounds made by huskies
(2) the call to friendship with humans
(3) the call to death
(4) the call of Buck's primitive ancestors

33. One of the themes of the novel is London's belief that
(1) only the fittest survive
(2) man should be friends to animals
(3) animals are better than men
(4) animals are not dependable

34. Buck had troubles in the North because he was
(1) scrawny and weak
(2) ill
(3) stupid
(4) from the soft environment of the South

35. The best word to describe London's method of telling this story is
(1) dialogue
(2) narrative
(3) sermon
(4) poetry

36. London says that a "moral sense" or a sense of good and bad is
(1) good to have in the North
(2) completely unnecessary to a civilized world
(3) good for men to have but not animals
(4) a handicap in certain environments

37. Subject, form, and point of view in this story are
(1) closely related
(2) awkwardly combined
(3) not related
(4) absent

38. Buck's longer and longer trips into the wilderness hint at his
(1) betrayal of his ancestors
(2) unavoidable death
(3) refusal to ever leave Thornton, dead or alive
(4) eventual return to savagery

39. Buck returns after his moose hunt because of
(1) hunger
(2) curiosity
(3) love for Thornton
(4) boredom

40. Thornton once tested Buck's loyalty by commanding him to
(1) fight Spitz
(2) jump off a cliff
(3) kill a bear
(4) return to the wilderness

41. Mercedes caused hardships for Buck, as well as Charles and Hall, because she
(1) lost Buck's food
(2) spoiled the dog team
(3) insisted on riding on the sled
(4) threatened to kill Buck

42. Mercedes', Charles', and Hal's deaths were foreshadowed or hinted at by their being unaware of
    (1) Spring
    (2) Indians
    (3) raiding huskies
    (4) robbers

43. Thornton's life was saved when Buck rescued him from the
    (1) Indians
    (2) river
    (3) avalanche
    (4) fire

OREGON CURRICULUM STUDY CENTER

Literature Curriculum II

THE PEARL: TEST

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1. The central theme underlying this story is the:
   (1) Social injustice experienced by the poverty stricken Indians of Mexico.
   (2) Man's inner struggle between his religious beliefs and his way of life.
   (3) Life of a pearl diver along the Gulf of California.
   (4) Devotion of man to his family.

2. Would the story have been just as effective if it had begun with the finding of the pearl and progressed from that point instead of being developed the way it is?
   (1) No, the conditions under which Kino's family and others like them live must be understood before subsequent events have meaning.
   (2) No, the motive for seeking the special pearl on that day would have been lacking.
   (3) Yes, the central theme of the story is man's search for material wealth and the happiness it brings.
   (4) Yes, the climax of the story is independent of the first chapter.

3. In the story Kino refers to the songs of his ancestors. We in the 20th century United States would probably refer to them as:
   (1) .literary ballads.
   (2) folk songs.
   (3) hymns.
   (4) lyrics.

4. What is the attitude of the people toward the doctor when Juana asks Kino to "get him"?
   (1) Respect for his healing powers.
   (2) Bitterness because of the profession he represents.
   (3) Adoration of his position.
   (4) Jealousness for intruding in their affairs.

5. Why did the people of the brush village all follow Kino and Juana to the doctor's house?
   (1) They were curious to see what would happen.
   (2) The misfortune of a family was shared by all of them.
   (3) They were watching Kino do something they would all like to have the courage to do.
   (4) They thought their presence would induce the doctor to care for the child.

6. Why did Kino have so much hatred for the doctor?
   (1) He refused to take care of his child.
   (2) He was known for his miserly giving to the church.
   (3) He represented the wealth which Kino wanted.
   (4) He was symbolic of those who had caused Kino's people to live in poverty.

7. When the doctor's servant told Kino "The doctor has gone out . . . .", what was the reaction of the people?
   (1) They were ashamed of Kino for creating the spectacle.
   (2) They were not surprised because they expected this outcome.
   (3) They did not wish to add to Kino's shame by staying near him.
   (4) They became angry and beat the iron gates.

8. Why was the destruction of the canoe so important to the story?
   (1) It meant that Kino was going to be poorer than ever.
   (2) It indicated that Kino's life could never be the same again.
   (3) It symbolized the significance of man's worldly possessions.
   (4) It symbolized the hardships primitive peoples must endure.

9. What are pearls made of?
   (1) Oyster muscles which have petrified.
   (2) Pieces of cement polished by ocean sand.
   (3) A grain of sand coated with a substance produced by the oyster.
   (4) A foreign substance eaten by oysters.

10. Which of the following best describes what the largest of pearls meant to Kino's ancestors?
   (1) Eternal life.
   (2) Life on another planet.
   (3) A way of life that could only be dreamed of.
   (4) A release from the poverty created by the Spanish.

11. What effect did the finding of the pearl have upon Kino's hand and Coyotito's scorpion bitten shoulder?
   (1) It made them both seem unimportant.
   (2) They healed almost immediately.
   (3) They could now be treated by the doctor.
   (4) None at all.

12. Why did Kino want his son to go to school?
   (1) It was the thing for rich people's children?
   (2) It would permit Kino to meet other rich people.
   (3) It would enable his son to marry outside the brush village.
   (4) It would free him and his people from a difficult way of life.

13. Which of the following best accounts for the abrupt change in attitude toward Kino by people who had scorned him when they learned he had found the pearl?
   (1) Happiness for him because he was so in need of good fortune.
   (2) The desire to know someone of great acclaim.
   (3) The strengthening of their own faith in what the future might bring to them.
   (4) The chance they saw for themselves to benefit from Kino's good fortune.

14. What is meant when the author says of Kino, "He had broken through the horizons into a cold and lonely outside. He felt alone and unprotected, and scraping crickets and shrilling tree frogs and croaking toads seemed to be carrying the melody of evil"?
   (1) He was afraid of things in nature.
   (2) He pictured the animals of nature as human enemies.
   (3) Finding the pearl separated Kino from the only way of life he knew.
   (4) He wanted to be alone in order to think about the events of the day.

15. What is the most likely geographic location in Mexico of the setting of the story.
(1) Northern Mexico
(2) Eastern Mexico
(3) Western Mexico
(4) Southern Mexico

16. What is the chief significance of the songs that Kino and Juana sing to themselves?
(1) They reveal their belief in Indian mythology despite their conversion to Christianity.
(2) They reveal the strength of cultural heritage in our lives.
(3) They reveal the mood of the story through the characters in it.
(4) They reveal the backwardness of the natives of Mexico.

17. How does the novel differ from the short story?
(1) It has a subject, form, and point of view.
(2) It has more than one theme running through it.
(3) It contains minor events as well as major events in a story.
(4) It can never be read at one sitting.

18. Which of the following incidents serves as the real starting point of the story?
(1) The finding of the pearl.
(2) The visit to the doctor's house.
(3) The dawn of the first day in the story.
(4) The scorpion biting the child.
(5) The striking of the iron gate by Kino.

19. What is the author's purpose in mentioning the church door beggars in the story?
(1) They symbolize the gossipy people in the world.
(2) They show that Kino's sudden wealth affected all levels of society from highest to lowest.
(3) Their inclusion shows that beggars are the only true friends Kino and Juana have.
(4) They show that the poor are as wise as the rich.

20. What is meant by the underlined word in the following sentence:
Across the <u>estuary</u> from the town . . . .
(1) River mouth.
(2) Harbor.
(3) Sand bar.
(4) Inland sea.
(5) Strait.

21. What is the principal advantage which a canoe gives to an Indian?
(1) It provides a means to pleasure in an otherwise dull existence.
(2) It guarantees a way of making a living.
(3) It is a symbol of considerable wealth.
(4) It serves as a means of transportation.

22. What is the meaning of the underlined word in the following sentence? "She gathered some brown seaweed and made a flat damp poultice of it, and then she . . . . "
(1) soup
(2) medicine
(3) soft mixture
(4) bandage

23. What is the author's chief criticism of the church?
(1) The beliefs held by Christians.
(2) Its blindness to the evil all about it.
(3) The manner in which it takes money from the poor.
(4) Its failure to do anything about the problems of the world.

24. The destruction of Kino's most prized possession follows a particular pattern. What did the objects destroyed signify or symbolize in Kino's life?
(1) Life, liberty, and happiness.
(2) Past, present, future.
(3) Bread, home, and life.
(4) Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

25. When Kino said "I am all right. The thing has gone," he showed how he felt about the enemies he had acquired because of the pearl. Which of the following words best describes his attitude toward them?
(1) impersonal (He thinks of them as symbolic of life's struggle.)
(2) vengeful (He hates his old enemies.)
(3) resigned (He thinks their enmity is to be expected.)
(4) perplexed (He couldn't understand their enmity.)

26. Which of the following passages depicts irony?
(1) . . . the best and happiest pearl buyer was he who bought for the lowest prices.
(2) Kino could feel the blown sand against his ankles and he was glad, for he knew there would be no tracks.
(3) She, being the nearest woman relative, raised a formal lament for the dead of the family.
(4) Everything that loved water came to these few shallow places.

27. Which of the following is a personification?
(1) The coyotes cried and laughed in the bush.
(2) "And beware of the tree that bleeds."
(3) ". . . not on the back or side of his head, like a rash, unmarried, irresponsible man."
(4) "He threaded his way through the bush . . . ."

28. Why did Kino and Juana walk in a rut in the road in their attempt to escape
(1) It was a better walking surface.
(2) It hid their tracks.
(3) A wagon wheel in the rut would cover their tracks.
(4) It symbolized their lives "as being in a rut".

29. Why did the author not prefer to continue the story by having Kino proceed northward and sell his pearl at a great price and live happily ever after?
    (1) It would have been impossible for Kino to be happy after all his misfortune.
    (2) The purpose of the story was to show that wealth is not worth the price of pursuit.
    (3) The death of Coyotito removed the symbol which offered hope for a new life for Kino's people and was the climax of the theme of the story.
    (4) The main theme of the story was to portray the character of one man and this had been done.

30. Kino wanted a rifle because:
    (1) It would give protection against the wild animals.
    (2) It would provide an additional way to get food for his family.
    (3) It would primarily serve as a symbol of defense against the oppressions of Kino's people.
    (4) Indians were planning to massacre the white people.

In the story the author uses many figures of speech. Exercises 31-40 are quotations taken directly from the story. Indicate which one of the following is found in each.

(a) Personification
(b) Simile
(c) Metaphor
(d) Irony
(e) none of these

31. "Behind him Juana's fire leaped into flame and threw spears of light through the chinks . . . ."

32. "I might have given it as a gift, but now it is my misfortune and my life. . . .

33. "They had spoken once, but there is no need for speech if it is only a habit anyway."

34. "And all of these people knew about the scorpion."

35. "But let one man step out of the regular thought or the known and trusted pattern and the nerves of the townspeople ring with nervousness and communication travels over the nerve lines of the town."

36. "A town is a thing like a colonial animal."

37. "The news swept on past the brush houses and washed in a foaming wave into the house of stone and plaster."

38. "All manner of people grew interested in Kino - people with things to sell and with favors to ask."

39. "Her pain was gone now, her slowness."

40. ". . . and as removed as heaven."